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Two held in murder inquiry after victim of assault, 43, dies

## WHO WITNESSED KILLING IN PARK?

By Callum Keown

**TWO men have been arrested on suspicion of murder after a 43-year-old Banbury man died nearly a month after being assaulted.**

Martin Rudzitis was attacked and robbed in People's Park, Banbury, on Friday, July 11.

Almost a month later, on Wednesday, August 3, he died in hospital.

A post-mortem examination revealed that his death was caused by head injuries – which police say could have been linked to the assault.

The two men, aged 19 and 20, were arrested on suspicion of murder and have been released on bail until Thursday, September 25.

Banbury MP Sir Tony Baldry said the 43-year-old's death was both "alarming and tragic".

He said: "It is terrible that Martin Rudzitis should have lost his life as a consequence of a serious assault and robbery in People's Park in a daylight attack.

"Attacks such as this are extremely rare in North Oxfordshire, which makes this incident and its consequences all the more alarming and tragic."

Last week, police released a series of CCTV images of potential witnesses who may have seen Mr Rudzitis being attacked at about 9.30pm in the park on July 11.

Officers are also appealing for possible family members or friends to come forward with any information.

Det Sgt Ali Driver said: "This is quite a complex investigation.

"It has taken some time for police officers to piece together the movements of Mr Rudzitis in the days prior to his death.

■ Continued on page 5

### Telling tall tales



Among those taking part in the Town Criers British Championship in Banbury was 7ft 2in-tall Martin Wood from Shrewsbury, right – the tallest Town Crier in the world  
■ See Page 3

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# Town criers have a right old ding-dong



Above left, Dev Hobson from Kidsgrove; top right, Prunella Scales gives husband Timothy West a kiss; Banbury Town Crier Anthony Church

## InBRIEF

### Cracknell in link to seat

■ **BANBURY:** Olympic gold medalist rower James Cracknell may stand for election as an MP in Banbury, it has been claimed.

It follows last week's announcement by Tory MP Sir Tony Baldry that he will not run next May, having held the seat for the last 32 years.

*The Daily Telegraph* reported that Mr Cracknell could be lined up to replace Sir Tony in Banbury, which is widely regarded as a safe seat for the Tories.

A spokeswoman for Sir Tony said his office would not comment on speculation.

Mr Cracknell's agent failed to respond to a request for a comment.

### Sex assault in the park

■ **BANBURY:** A teenager was sexually assaulted on a park bench by a man who offered to walk her home.

The 18-year-old was attacked in People's Park at about 10.30pm on Sunday, August 31, after a night out with friends.

Police described the suspect as white with a Polish accent.

They said he was aged about 27, 6ft tall, slim, with brown eyes and a scar above his right eyebrow.

He was wearing a brown leather jacket and jeans and was carrying a rucksack.

The victim suffered bruising but did not require hospital treatment. Anyone with information should call 101.

## ■ Celebrity audience for nationwide competition

OYEZ! Oyez! Banbury rang out with the sound of 2014 town criers' championships on Saturday.

The annual Loyal Company of Town Criers British Championships was held in the town centre.

A total of 15 town criers took part in the competition where they were judged on categories such as diction, volume and bearing.

It had been organised by Anthony Church, of Barns Road in Cowley, who is town crier for Banbury and Oxford.

He said: "It was a fantastic day. A lot of members of the public stayed around to watch and we were joined by Timothy West and Prunella Scales, which was good."

Ms Scales, 82, who is best known for her role as Basil Fawlty's wife Sybil in the comedy *Fawlty Towers*, revealed earlier this year that she is suffering from "a sort of mild Alzheimer's".

She has been married to fellow thespian Timothy West since 1963.

The couple were filming a new series of their Channel 4 TV show *Great Canal Journeys* and hap-

By Damian Fantato

pened to be in Banbury at the time, so the station arranged for them to take part.

The competition was won by John Stevens, the town crier for Alnwick in Northumberland.

He said: "I have never ever won the Loyal Company of Town Criers British championship. That is, until on Saturday at Banbury. I was astounded, amazed and totally chuffed to bits. The very first competition I ever entered was in Halifax in 2003 where I incredibly came fourth. After that it was all downhill for me."

The Loyal Company of Town Criers has been established since 1993 as a group to promote and represent town criers across the country.

In the Middle Ages, a town crier used to be an officer of the court who would make any public announcements which were required.

The need for town criers has since disappeared but councils can still make honorary appointments to the role and there are now more than 100 that do so.

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MP Sir Tony Baldry with Margaret Coles, left, of Thames Valley FSB and Julia Colegrave of Wykham Farm Shop

## Local traders initiative is money-spinner

MORE than £100,000 flowed into independent shops and firms, following a campaign to boost local business.

The Keep Trade Local challenge, run during the second week of August by the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB), used local papers, plus Facebook and Twitter to get the message across.

The campaign encourages people to shop locally and resulted in a huge boost to business revenue over the week.

Wykham Park Farm Shop, near Banbury, was one of the independents that took part.

Owner Julia Colegrave said: "Anything like this is helpful.

"We notice that people flock to us whenever there is any kind of food scandal, like the recent one over horse meat which boosted our sales of meat by 30 per cent.

"But people have short memories and they slip back into their old ways."

The campaign, in its second year,

had backing from Banbury MP Sir Tony Baldry.

David Knowles-Leak, Thames Valley FSB chairman, said: "The importance of local trade in respect of creating and maintaining sustainable communities cannot be underestimated. Small businesses are the most important drivers of jobs in the private sector and looking after your local businesses and encouraging them to thrive a big part of the employment infrastructure of our communities."

# A nappy bag 'suffocated' baby to death, inquest is told

A BABY suffocated to death after a nappy bag was blown over her face during a windy night, an inquest heard.

By Dan Robinson

Three-month-old Ruby Williams, from Banbury, probably died in her sleep, Oxfordshire assistant coroner Alison Thompson said last Thursday.

She was found on the morning of Saturday, February 15, by her mum Dawn Williams. The window next to her cot was said to be broken and unable to close.

Ms Williams, who was told by the coroner she could not have done anything, had been on a night out the previous evening while Ruby and her older brother were left in the care of babysitter Niamh Anderson.

Miss Anderson told the inquest the nappy bags had been left on the changing table next to the cot and she remembered there was one that was loose.

She left when Ms Williams returned home at about 1am, with Ruby asleep.

Ms Williams cried as Miss Thompson described how Ruby, who had a cold, was found at 8.45am with the plastic bag covering her mouth and nose.

It is believed she died at some point during the night.

DC Steven Gilks, of the child abuse and investigation unit, attended the scene but said there was no evidence of foul play.

Miss Thompson said: "This was an accident. It wasn't something that could have been reasonably foreseen by anyone.

"There's no blame or fault attached to it.

"I can't be certain as to exactly what happened but I'm satisfied on the balance of probabilities that the nappy bag played a part in her death."

She recorded a verdict of accidental death.



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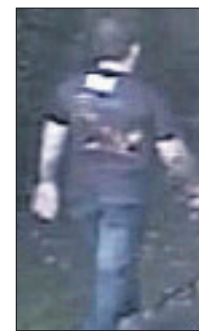
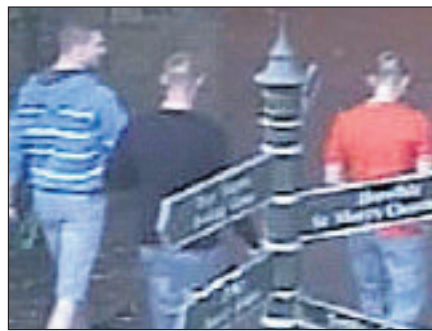
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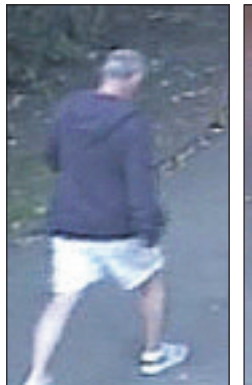
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CCTV images of some of the potential witnesses police want to speak to regarding the murder



## InBRIEF

### Man hurt in blaze at flat

■ **BANBURY:** A man was taken to hospital after a flat fire in Penrose Drive last Wednesday.

Two engines from Banbury and Deddington attended the fire at about 3.40pm.

The man, who lived in the flat, was taken to hospital by ambulance.

Watch manager David Edge said: "Our firefighters worked hard to quickly find the location of the fire in the flat before bringing it under control and extinguishing it.

"We'll investigate the cause of the fire."

### 54-home plan turned down

■ **HOOK NORTON:** Plans for 54 homes in Hook Norton were turned down after councillors agreed it would be an "unacceptable living environment" for residents, according to Cherwell District Council's lead member for planning, councillor Michael Gibbard.

The council rejected the plans for a development between Hook Norton Primary School and Redland Farm. The application can be viewed at [cherwell.gov.uk](http://cherwell.gov.uk) on ref no. 14/00844/OUT

# Can you help find attackers?

■ From Page 1

"What we have recently established is that, at about 9.30pm on July 11, while he was in People's Park, Banbury, Mr Rudzitis was the victim of a serious assault and robbery. "This incident is thought to have

happened somewhere near the main entrance to Horsefair/North Bar."

He added: "Mr Rudzitis managed to walk away from the assault – but died on August 3.

"It was still light at the time and we are aware that other members

of the public may have seen what happened or have been pestered by the offenders as they entered or exited the park.

"We would urge anyone with information about this to contact police."

Call the police hotline, 101, with any information.

## ■ Not-guilty verdict over child's broken leg

# Mum is acquitted of causing GBH to baby daughter

A TEENAGER accused of breaking her baby daughter's leg broke down in tears as she was cleared this week.

Jade Collison, of Juniper Close, Banbury, was acquitted of one count of inflicting grievous bodily harm after a four-day trial.

The 19-year-old was also cleared of inflicting actual bodily harm on her daughter, who the *Banbury Cake* has chosen not to name.

A jury of 11 men and one woman reached a unanimous decision after about three hours of deliberating.

Doctors discovered the injury after the infant, then six months old, was taken to Banbury's Horton Hospital on January 29.

Prosecutor Sam Mainds said the visit was because of two bruises on the side of her face, which her mother said were caused by a fall against

By Joe Nimmo

her cot's bars. He said a doctor became suspicious when Miss Collison appeared to give different accounts of the incident and the hospital kept the infant in overnight.

Mr Mainds said an X-ray revealed the child had a fracture that was several days old.

He alleged both injuries were caused by Miss Collison, but on Monday she was found not guilty and walked free from court.

During her trial she told the jury the break must have been caused when her then boyfriend Ashley Denning stepped on the baby while getting out of bed. Miss Collison said: "Ashley stood up and accidentally stepped on [her] leg."

Robin Griffiths, defending, asked:

"When did you become aware of what had happened?"

His client replied: "I heard Ashley say 'oh s\*\*\*' and then [my daughter] started to cry. It was like a screaming cry."

She said she noticed a red mark when she picked the child up, but did not think it was a serious injury.

Miss Collison added: "Ashley made a remark of 'if you say anything I will not be held responsible for my actions'.

"I thought that he would cause harm to me if I mentioned it to anyone."

During cross-examination Mr Mainds accused her of lying and said: "You caused the baby an injury that caused a break on her leg."

But Miss Collison consistently denied she was the cause of the injury.

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**InBRIEF****Swimming times are cut**

■ **BANBURY:** A swimming pool has reverted back to its limited opening hours after the start of the new school year last week.

Woodgreen Open Air Pool will reduce its hours for the winter season tomorrow at 7.30pm. Public swimming will still be available all day Saturday and Sunday and between 3pm and 5.30pm during week days.

George Reynolds, deputy leader of Cherwell District Council, said: "Just like the opening of the pool marks the start of summer, the return to school marks its end and in turn it also signifies the closure of the facility for another year."

Throughout its summer opening hours the pool had been open for public swimming between 10am and 5pm daily. Early bird sessions and lane swimming will still be available at selected times during the week.

Call 01295 262742 or visit [www.leisurecentre.com/woodgreen-leisure-centre](http://www.leisurecentre.com/woodgreen-leisure-centre)

**Making cars parts secure**

■ **BANBURY:** The town neighbourhood policing team said it held a successful catalytic converter marking event last month.

During the day, 23 converters were marked at Kwik Fit, in Lower Cherwell Street. Officers also gave out crime prevention tips to residents and car owners.

The marking kits provide a deterrent to thieves and help the police to track down the stolen converters.

**Volunteers needed to show true grit during snowy weather**

Heavy snow in Upper Cherwell Street, Banbury, in 2010

AN APPEAL has been launched for snow wardens to help out in Banbury this winter.

The Neighbourhood Snow Warden Scheme will see volunteers organise the gritting of roads and pavements in the areas where they live.

The volunteers cover areas which are not considered a gritting priority by the town council.

Snow wardens need a mobile phone or access to the Internet as they will be part of providing weather information and decision-making on which roads to grit.

Anyone interested in volunteering should call at the town hall, ring 01295 250340, or email [snowwardens@banbury.gov.uk](mailto:snowwardens@banbury.gov.uk)

**Man and teenager are jailed for sex attacks on New Year's Eve**

# Rapists told to alter attitudes to women

A RAPIST who showed a "callous disregard" for his victim has been given a 16-year prison sentence.

Waqas Hussain, of Prescott Avenue, Banbury, was branded "dangerous" and given an extended jail term on September 5 at Oxford Crown Court.

The 21-year-old was convicted after a trial of two counts of rape and one count of false imprisonment committed on New Year's Eve this year.

He was sentenced alongside a 16-year-old, who cannot be named for legal reasons, who was also convicted of rape and false imprisonment and given six years.

By Joe Nimmo

Judge Gordon Risius said the offence took place inside a house in Banbury and the victim was a 23-year-old woman.

He said Hussain punched their female victim and told her to undress, before carrying out a rape which was partly filmed on a mobile phone.

Judge Risius said the older defendant then told the teenager to rape the woman as well, which he did.

Sentencing the pair he told them: "This sad case concerns a cavalier attitude

towards sexual activity and a callous disregard for a young woman who did not want to have sex with you.

"Serve your sentences and then make something positive of your lives.

"Start treating women with respect, and not simply as objects for your own pleasure."

The judge heard mitigation that both defendants had been "chastened" by going through a trial and were trying to change.

Hussain will serve a minimum of eight years in custody and will then be released on licence.

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## 'Space academy' takes first pupils

■ **BANBURY:** The UK's first specialist 'space academy' opened last Wednesday.

Space Studio Banbury welcomed its first intake of 75 students to the academy which will specialise in maths and science.

It is based in Ruskin Road opposite Banbury Academy, and is run by the Aspirations Academy Trust.

The curriculum will teach GCSE and A-Level qualifications and take students aged between 14 and 18.

It has room for 300 students in total. Headteacher Mike Grocott said he hoped to inspire children to work in the space industry.



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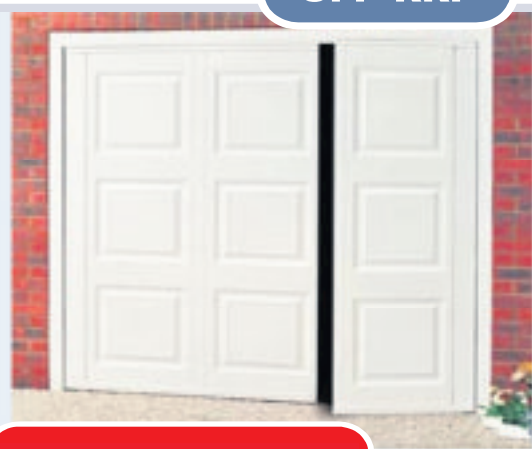
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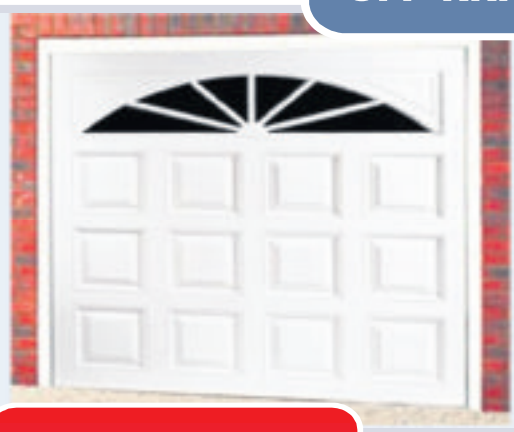
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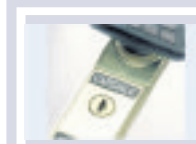
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■ Sale of wristbands will raise money for bench and help charity

# Friends try to set up memorial to Connor

By Ben Wilkinson

**LUCY-ANNE** Cage has made it her mission to raise money in memory of her close friend Connor Tremble.

The 18-year-old, who grew up with the teenager in Banbury, has so far helped to collect more than £2,800 following the 17-year-old's murder in February.

She said: "I want to keep him alive. He is with us every day and I want people to know it."

It comes as Will Blencowe, of Oxford Road, Banbury, was jailed for life – with a minimum of 23 years – for stabbing Connor at his Fairacres Road flat in Oxford.

Miss Cage has been selling wristbands and wants to build two memorial benches in the former Meadowbrook College pupil's name.

She said she hoped one would be put in Spiceball Park in Banbury – where she used to hang out with Connor – and another by the Oxford Canal where Connor used to walk.

But she said she wanted friends of Connor to be involved in creating the benches to make them more special.

The Hanwell Fields resident said more than 100 original wristbands said 'In Memory of Connor' on them and were sold for £3 each.

But she said new ones would read 'Justice for Has Been Served' with the date his murderer Will Blencowe was convicted on.

Miss Cage said any leftover money would be given to the national organisation Brain Bank for



Lucy-Anne Cage, front, with friends in Spiceball Park and some of the wristbands she is selling in memory of Connor Tremble

Autism – a charity close to Connor's family's heart. But she said she would continue to raise money in her friend's name, adding: "We are going to carry on fundraising in Connor's name for that charity so he will never be forgotten."

She added: "He was great to everyone as you can tell. He has touched so many people."

Connor's flatmate Kyle Martin – who called 999 after his friend was knifed – has also paid tribute to the murdered teen.

He said: "Connor was a caring, loving character who always puts others before himself."

"He had a heart of gold and wanted to succeed in life."

"He was my soulmate, my other half, I loved him as a little brother. Words can't describe the pain this has brought into my life and all of Connor's family's lives."

He added: "We will forever be grateful to everybody who has shown their support."

"One love to the Trembles."

## Mum overwhelmed by support

CONNOR Tremble's mother said the outpouring of love following her son's murder showed how many lives he touched.

Lisa Tremble said she was overwhelmed by support.

And Miss Tremble, of Withycombe Drive, Banbury, said her son was a typical cheeky teenager with a great sense of humour.

Describing the outpouring of love from friends after he died the 42-year-old said: "It was overwhelming."

"Connor touched the hearts of so many people, we didn't even know the extent of it."

"If he just spoke to someone he made them smile, he was that sort of boy."

"And it wasn't until he died that we realised just how many people loved him and how many lives he touched."

"It was just amazing. He only lived in Oxford for eight months and people here



Murder victim Connor Tremble with his mum Lisa

loved him so much. His death has been devastating, not just for his family and friends, but for two communities as well."

The mother added that Connor was going to get a tattoo when he turned 18 which said 'Hope is your faith and your memory is worth living for'.

She said: "I think of that every day to get me through the day." And she added that she had

decided to get the same tattoo herself.

Miss Tremble thanked Connor's close friends Lucy-Anne Cage, who has been fundraising to afford a memorial bench in his name, and Shelby Delaney.

She also thanked Young Marley Taylor Ward (aka Rapper Spide), Connor's close friend Kyle Martin, and all the other friends who had got in touch and shown their support.

Friend Billy-Joe Langton has created a memorial to Connor Tremble in his living room.

The 22-year-old had been friends with former Blessed George Napier School pupil Connor since they grew up in Banbury together.

He said: "It is still surreal that this all happened. He is madly missed by everyone."

"I have a got a little memorial for him in my living room. I will never get rid of it."

"He will always be with me even though he is not here."

## Banbury Cake

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## Coffee firm offers workplace help



### Last year's event at Mondelez in Banbury

THE firm behind Kenco and Tassimo coffee  
will give unemployed youngsters a taste of  
the workplace.

Banbury-based MondelezInternational  
has teamed up with JobCentrePlus to lay on  
workshops for 15 jobless youngsters, as  
part of a national campaign to tackle youth  
unemployment.

Mondelez, part of a global group which  
also includes the Cadbury, Jacobs and Oreo  
brands, will explain what skills are needed  
to work in the food industry.

Tomorrow's event is part of the Feeding  
Britain's Future - Skills for Work Month  
which offers a chance to spend time at  
farms, factories and food stores in the UK.

The half-day workshop includes one-  
breaker activities, tastings, on-the-job  
coaching and an opportunity to quiz  
existing apprentices. Other businesses  
taking part include Oxfordshire branches of  
the Co-op, Morrisons, Waitrose,  
Sainsbury's, Tesco and ASDA.

Amy Penner, senior engineer at  
Mondelez, said: "The idea is to introduce  
the notion of coming to work and what sort  
of jobs are available in the food industry.

"We took part in the scheme last year  
and employees who volunteered to help  
found it extremely rewarding.

"A lot of people who live in the Banbury  
area can smell that we make coffee but  
have probably never been on site.

"This gives them a chance to get an  
overview of all the different types of jobs  
we do here.

"It's about giving them information about  
how their career can start and continue,  
especially if they choose not to go to  
university.

"They hopefully find out that coming to  
apply for an apprenticeship here is not too  
scary.

"It's all about giving unemployed young  
people more confidence because  
sometimes they just need a leg-up."

# Young woman fell to death after drinking

A WOMAN died after falling  
out of the window of her  
third-floor room after drink-  
ing vodka, just four days  
after she had moved to  
England to "start a new life".

Marta Muczynska had  
come to England from her  
native Poland four days  
before she died from severe  
head injuries, on June 20,  
2013.

The 20-year-old had lived  
in England once before and  
had returned to start a new  
life, said David Dyczek,  
another Polish resident in  
the shared home in West  
Street, Banbury.

Oxfordshire Coroner's  
Court heard on September 3  
that Ms Muczynska had  
bought a bottle of vodka on  
June 19, and invited other  
Polish residents to drink  
with her in the kitchen of  
the shared house that evening.

### By Ben Holgate

"She was drinking quite  
quick," Mr Dyczek told the  
court. "She was quite  
drunk."

Most of the other drinkers  
went to bed around 11pm.  
At 11.25pm, Ms Muczynska  
received a text message  
from Arkadiusz Zachariasz,  
a fellow Pole she had been  
seeing, asking to be let in.

Shortly before midnight,  
Ms Muczynska and Mr  
Zachariasz, who did not live  
at the house at the time,  
retired to her room.

At around 1.15am, Ms  
Muczynska fell to her death  
from her bedroom window,  
landing three floors below  
on the concrete courtyard at  
the rear of the building,  
deputy coroner Alison  
Thompson said. However,

her fall was not witnessed.

Ms Muczynska did not  
drink often and her blood  
alcohol level at the time of  
death was three times the  
legal driving limit, the court  
heard.

Home Office pathologist  
Dr Simon Poole said in a  
statement Ms Muczynska  
had suffered "a very severe  
brain injury" and that the  
cause of death was "blunt  
force trauma to the head".

She would have lost con-  
sciousness very quickly after  
hitting the floor, said Dr  
Poole.

The deputy coroner con-  
cluded: "I am satisfied I  
have enough evidence on  
balance to record an acci-  
dental death verdict."

Miss Thompson said she  
found her decision "diffi-  
cult" because of the lack of  
direct evidence.



# CakeLeisure

banburycake.co.uk/leisure

## Village makes a meal of it



Wild Rabbit manager Graham Williams

**R**URAL Kingham may only have a population of about 900 people, but it has come top with two entries in this year's *Good Food Guide*.

Its two eateries – The Wild Rabbit Inn and the Kingham Plough – are both included in this year's edition of the prestigious guide, with the Plough making number 40 on its first ever Top 50 Pubs listing. Besides from the restaurant and pub, the village near Chipping Norton has a village shop, Kingham Primary School, a Royal British Legion club, a village hall and a park.

Blur's former bass player Alex James lives on a sheep and dairy farm just outside the village, which hosted The Big Feastival event last month.

Now its Wild Rabbit inn is included in the 64th *Good Food Guide* after only opening a year ago.

General manager Graham Williams said: "The *Good Food Guide* had received reviews of us from customers and then invited us to apply, which was a process of us sending off menus and things.

By Alex Wynick

"It means an affirmation of what we're trying to do here and a recognition of the team's hard work over the last 12 months."

When the inn, owned by Lady Carole Bamford, opened, it was labelled the poshest pub in Britain by the *Daily Mail*.

Mr Williams said: "We don't set out to be the poshest pub in Britain, it was a handle that was given to us when we opened."

"I don't think we're proud of the title, but it makes us smile."

While most other restaurants are eager for new customers, Mr Williams joked: "We are very busy already, I'm not sure we can cope with any more."

"We've been busy since the day we opened."

Emily Watkins is the owner of the Kingham Plough and was a winning chef on BBC2 cookery contest *Great British Menu*.

She said: "We're absolutely thrilled to be in the top 50, it's really exciting. Kingham has

become a bit of a foodie place."

In total six Oxfordshire eateries have entered the guide – which went on sale on Monday – for the first time, compared to four that made it in last year's version.

Jacob's Inn in Wolvercote has also only been open for a year. Owner Damion Farah said: "We're delighted, it's a great thing for us in our first year."

"It gets our name out there so people can hear about us and travel to us. Because we're in a village we don't get much passing trade, it's more about people hearing about us and coming specifically."

Fellow new entrant is the Fallowfields Country House Hotel in Kingston Bagpuize.

Owner Anthony Lloyd said: "It's very exciting."

For Bryn Jones, the owner of The Oxford Arms in Kirtlington, the inclusion is a big boost.

He said: "I'm the chef here as well so it's a very personal compliment."

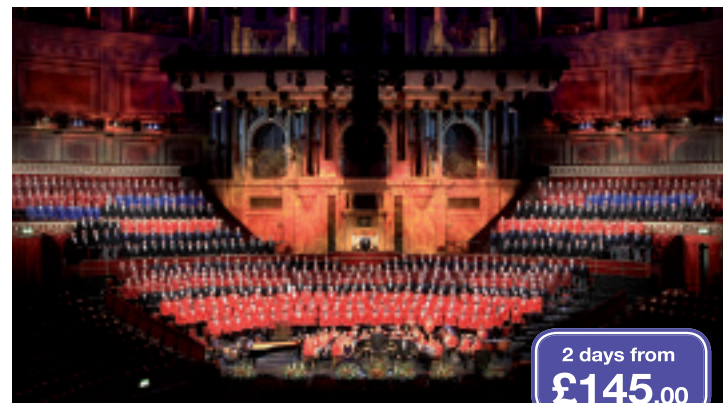
"This is good news for us because it will hopefully mean more business for us."



Emily Watkins at the Kingham Plough

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# Thriller to keep you on the edge of your seats

**BEFORE I GO TO SLEEP** (15, 92 mins) Thriller/Romance/Action. Nicole Kidman, Colin Firth, Mark Strong, Anne-Marie Duff. Director: Rowan Joffe

**T**HERE has been a rich harvest of taut thrillers in 2014, including the independent American features *Blue Ruin* and *Cold In July* and gritty British films *Locke* and *Starred Up*.

With David Fincher's adaptation of *Gone Girl* looming on the horizon, this is undoubtedly a year when audiences furiously biting their nails in the dark of an unbearably tense cinema.

*Before I Go To Sleep* is guaranteed to jangle nerves and drop a few jaws as summer mellows into autumn.

Based on SJ Watson's bestselling novel, this ingenious thriller places us in exactly the same hellish predicament as the heroine, who wakes up each morning without any memory of the past, including her own identity.

Through the eyes of this terrified wife, we absorb scraps of information from supposedly reliable sources and try to piece together the truth, unsure if writer-director Rowan Joffe is leading us a merry, sadistic dance.

Following a car accident, 47-year-old Christine Lucas (Nicole Kidman) is diagnosed with anterograde amnesia.

Each morning, she wakes in a

strange bed next to a man she does not know and creeps into the adjacent bathroom where a series of photographs on the wall begin to fill in the blanks, letting her know that the man is her husband Ben (Colin Firth) and they have shared many happy years together.

"You store up information for a day, wake up, and it's all gone," explains Ben, whose love for his wife holds strong.

He leaves for work and Christine continues to learn about her past from information in the house.

Then she receives a mysterious telephone call from someone called Dr Nash (Mark Strong), who instructs her to look in the wardrobe.

"We've been keeping a video diary. I'm not sure Ben knows," confides the medic.

The subsequent footage casts doubt on the facts that underpin Christine's fragile existence.

"Don't trust anyone!" whispers Christine to herself in the video diary, tears glistening in her eyes.

As Christine reconnects with Claire (Anne-Marie Duff), who is supposedly her best friend, contradictory testimonies drive her to the brink of insanity.

*Before I Go To Sleep* drip-feeds us fragmented flashbacks, clouding our judgement of characters as they orbit Christine, purportedly out of love.

Kidman captures the fragility of a woman at the mercy of her



*Before I Go To Sleep*, starring Nicole Kidman as Christine Lucas and Colin Firth as Ben Lucas

Picture: PA Photo/Studio Canal

condition, who knows she must stare into the abyss before sleep robs her of a day's detective work.

Firth and Strong offer sterling support and Joffe cranks up the tension masterfully.

The guessing game of who to trust is part of the film's diabolical appeal and the script engineers some wonderful bluffs until a gasp-inducing big reveal that should have audiences teetering on the edge of their seats.

## CakeWhat's on

### Music

**FRIDAY: General Foods S&S Club, Spiceball Park, Banbury:** Garrett. Rock, pop and country covers. 9pm. 01295 252852.

### Theatre

**Mill Arts Centre, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury: Thursday:** Drama with *The Lindisfarne Story*. 8pm. £19.

**Friday:** Music from Knoxville Highway. 8pm. £16/£13 concs.

**Saturday:** Music from *The Dolly Parton Story*. 8pm. £17. 01295 279002

**The Theatre, Chipping Norton: Thursday:** Magic with *Morgan & West: A Grand Adventure*. 7.45pm. £14/12, £8.50 schools

**Friday:** Music from The Rollin' Clones. 7.45pm. £15.

**Saturday:** Theatrical screening: *Medea*, from the National Theatre. Starring Helen McCrory. 7pm. £13. Box office 01608 642350 (Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-2pm)

### Events

**FRIDAY: Celebrity Golf Day:** Bicester Hotel, Golf and Spa, Chesterton, Bicester. Actors Warren Clarke and Dennis Waterman are hosting this event in aid of Helen & Douglas House. Teams of three will play golf with a celebrity and enjoy dinner with entertainment afterward. Email fundraising@helenanddouglas.org.uk or call for more information. 10.30am-10.30pm. £180 pp. 01865 799150.

**SATURDAY: Finnmore Boot Sale:** Finnmore Aerodrome, A4421 Bicester to Buckingham Road, Finnmore. Boot Prices: car - £10; car and small trailer - £12; car and large trailer - £14; van - £16; new goods - £20. 7am. 07850 912181. **Heritage Open Day:** Upton House and Gardens, near Banbury. Art tours. Normal opening times apply. 11am. Free. 01295 670266. **Drop-in session:** Bloxham residents can discuss concerns with members of Bloxham Parish Council. A drop-in session will be

held from 10.30am to 11.30am at Bloxham Ex Servicemen's Village Hall.

**SUNDAY: Roller Derby taster:** Sports Centre, Queens Avenue, Bicester. Free taster. 6.45pm. Usually £20 per month. 6.45pm.

**Parade:** Through Banbury to mark the Battle of Britain. The ATC band will lead the parade up High Street from Broad Street, round Banbury Cross and then to service in St Mary's Church. It will start at 10.40pm outside the Town Hall.

**DAILY: All about Asters:** Daily, Upton House and Gardens, near Banbury. See the National Collection of Asters in its prime in the gardens of Upton House. Garden tours. Normal National Trust admission prices apply. 11am. Free. 01295 670266.

### Cinema

**Odeon Horsefair, Banbury:** Box office 0871 2244007

**The Theatre, Chipping Norton:** Box office 01608 642350 (Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-2pm)

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United record first league win of the season as new manager is appointed

# Boss Davis guides Puritans to victory

**BANBURY United gain their first Premier Division points of the season with first-half goals from Josh Shama and Shepherd Murombedzi earning them victory over Dorchester.**

It was an encouraging result for Paul Davis in his first match since being appointed full-time manager in succession to Ed Stein. Luke Cray returned from holiday at right back in place of Leo Agathangelou, new signing Joel Meade came in at centre-half in place of Lewis Strafford and Murombedzi replaced Darius Browne.

Shama posed a constant threat to the Dorchester defence and was denied twice by keeper Alan Walker-Harris before putting the Puritans ahead in the 28th minute.

Dorchester Town defender Oakley Hanger had the ball nicked off him by Shama,

<b>Banbury Utd</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Dorchester Tn</b>	<b>1</b>

who went on to fire past Walker-Harris from 12 yards.

He then set up a chance for Jacob Walcott, before the hosts doubled their lead on the stroke of half-time.

Shama fed Murombedzi wide on the left. He cut inside to the edge of the penalty area before firing home.

Dorchester got right back into the game three minutes into the second half when a long throw from Dan Cann into the six-yard box saw Nathan Walker get the faintest of touches to carry it into the back of the net.

Despite the result, Banbury stay bottom of the table.

**Skipper Luke Cray picks up Shepherd Murombedzi after he scored their second goal**



## Banbury slump to home defeat

BANBURY'S surprise 15-run defeat at home to Harefield in Division 1 saw their opponents escape the drop.

Zimbabwe one-day international Chamu Chibhabha was Harefield's saviour, hitting 97 off 104 balls with 12 fours and three sixes, before taking 2-26.

He led Harefield to 262-7. Chibhabha was well supported by Robert Tidey (52).

Banbury's were bowled out for 247 as Doug King (5-53) polished off the tail.

HAREFIELD	
S Macey c Hawkes b E Phillips	10
J Shiel lbw E Phillips	23
G Shiel c J Phillips b Ryan	35
C Chibhabha b Wright	97
R Tidey c E Phillips b J Phillips	52
D Norotam run out	13
L Tyrrell c Wright b West	8
D King not out	1
D Evans not out	1
Extras	22
Total (7 wks, 50 ovs)	262
Fall: 1-37, 2-38, 3-110, 4-205, 5-236, 6-254, 7-257.	
<b>Bowling:</b> Blanchard 10-0-29-0, Wright 8-1-55-1, E Phillips 4-0-35-2, J Phillips 10-1-59-1, Ryan 10-2-29-1, West 8-0-49-1.	



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# CakeMotoring

banburycake.co.uk/cars

## Nimble 4x4 sports host of technology

By David Duffy

IT is almost impossible not to feel a little self-conscious piloting such a massive beast as the Range Rover Sport through city streets.

It might be the fastest, most agile and responsive Land Rover, but weighing in at around the two-ton mark, this is still a mightily impressive vehicle.

Despite its awesome presence, the Sport's use of aluminium and lightweight technology have lopped a whopping 420kg off the weight of the outgoing model.

That alone has contributed to a step-change in the way it handles both on- and off-road.

It is that sporting feel that makes the sleeker, more rounded Sport the car of choice for drivers looking for the luxury, prestige and presence of a Range Rover with the addition of a more dynamic drive.

Based on the new flagship Range Rover, the Sport is available in a choice of four equipment grades and three engines – TDV6 and SDV6 3.0-litre diesel units and a supercharged 5.0-litre V8 petrol, all with eight-speed automatic transmission and stop/start technology.

The Sport is Land Rover's most technology-packed vehicle to date, including several new systems.

Standard features across the range include automatic headlights and

windscreen wipers, two-zone climate control, heated front seats, DAB audio, voice control, a power tailgate, hard-disk navigation and Land Rover's all-terrain driving system, which adjusts the air suspension and electronics of the off-road system to cope with everything from wading through sand to crawling over rocks. For off-road enthusiasts, a new wide sensing feature uses sonar mounted in the bottom of the exterior mirrors to monitor the depth when driving through water.

And for city drivers, the Sport is also available with a park assist feature – which debuted on the Range Rover Evoque – enhanced to automatically both perpendicular park and to exit a tight parking space.

The test model in HSE specification gets 20-inch alloy wheels, perforated leather seats with 14-way electric front seat adjustment with memory function, heated rear seats,



**MORE SPACE:** The increase in wheelbase has opened up extra room for passengers

power steering column adjustment, front fog lights, paddle shift controls, heated windscreen, rear view camera and aluminium Range Rover treadplates.

While the car itself has only grown in length by 62mm, its longer wheelbase has allowed for the option of an additional third-row of electrically-operated rear seats.

Where you don't feel at all self-conscious is when you hit a potholed surface like the battle-scarred roundabout on the A40 at Burford. There the 20-inch alloy wheels, with their massive tyres, soak up everything the appalling surface can throw at you.

### Auto facts

**Model:** Range Rover Sport HSE  
**Price:** £59,465  
**Insurance group:** 43 (1-50)  
**Fuel consumption (Combined):** 37.7mpg  
**Top speed:** 130mph  
**Length:** 485cm/191in  
**Width:** 207cm/81.5in  
**Luggage capacity:** 27.6 cu ft  
**Fuel tank capacity:** 17.6 gallons/80 litres  
**CO2 emissions:** 199g/km  
**Warranty:** 3 years/unlimited mileage

## Roadsafetynews

### Families urged to help make roads safe

FAMILIES and community groups are being urged to take part in Road Safety Week 2014 (November 17-23), the UK's biggest road safety event.

The charity Brake, which coordinates the event, is encouraging parents and community leaders to go to [www.roadsafetyweek.org.uk](http://www.roadsafetyweek.org.uk) to register online for a free e-action pack, and to get ideas on promoting safer road use and campaigning to make our local communities safer for people to walk and cycle.

Road Safety Week, supported by headline sponsors RSA and

Specsavers, is a great opportunity for community groups, families and schools to take action on local road safety issues, and run activities and campaigns to help make roads safer and prevent needless casualties.

The theme of Road Safety Week 2014 is 'look out for each other': raising awareness of the ways everyone can help protect one another on roads, especially the most vulnerable.

Brake will particularly call on motorists to protect kids and adults on foot and cycle by slowing down to 20mph in

communities and looking twice and taking it slow at junctions and bends.

Families and community groups can run an initiative on this theme or any other road safety topic. Last year 7,795 community groups, schools and organisations registered to take part, running activities ranging from fundraisers to road safety workshops, to protests against fast traffic to community speed checks and poster design competitions. Register at [www.roadsafetyweek.org.uk/](http://www.roadsafetyweek.org.uk/) communities to get a free e-action pack.

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## Wheelsanddeals

■ KEEN to boost availability of its new, greener diesel engine, Vauxhall has fitted its 'whisper' 1.6-litre motor to its rakish three-door Astra GTC. The coupé-bodied Astra joins the five-door and estate Sports Tourer models, and it boasts numbers that should appeal to tax-savvy company car drivers as well as private buyers seeking to save some cash. The engine replaces the 1.7 CDTi, providing 136 horsepower – a slight increase on the outgoing unit – delivered through an improved six-speed manual transmission. Prices start from £22,260.

■ THE next Volvo XC90 will be able to brake itself if its driver attempts to pull out in front of an oncoming car, as one of two world-first safety innovations. This auto-brake technology detects whether an approaching car is technically on a collision course and will automatically hit the brakes to prevent a possible accident.

Family Business		LOWER ARNCOTT CAR SALES		Established 1972
2007	57	VAUXHALL SIGNUM DESIGN 3.0 V6 CDTi AUTOMATIC. DIESEL. Metallic Dark Blue. 5 Door Hatchback. Local car. Full service history. Half leather interior. Satellite Navigation. Remote central locking. PAS. Alloys. Aircon. Electric windows/mirrors. Radio/CD. Etc. Superb performance fabulous car in excellent condition. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt kit. HPI clear.....	£4295	
2006	56	HONDA JAZZ 1.4 Sport. 5 door. Black. One local private owner. Full service history. Aircon. Alloys. Radio/CD. Remote central locking. Electric windows/door mirrors. Superb economical car in excellent condition. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt kit. HPI Clear.....	£4,150	
2005	55	TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO D-4D T2. DIESEL. 7 SEATER. Silver. Superb local car. Approximately only 56000 recorded miles. 2.0 Diesel with 7 seats. Remote central locking. Aircon. PAS. Electric windows and door mirrors. Radio/CD. Alloys. Etc. Fantastic family diesel MPV. Lovely condition throughout. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt. HPI Clear.....	£5195	
2004	04	TOYOTA AVENSIS T3-X 1.8. Metallic Blue. 5 door Hatchback. Local car. 2 owners from new. Good condition throughout. Aircon. PAS. Electric windows. Radio/CD. Very nice large family sized hatch. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt kit. HPI Clear.....	£2495	
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2003	03	FORD FUSION 1.4 Zetec. 5 Doors. Metallic light green. Local car. Good service history. PAS. Aircon. Radio/CD. Electric windows and door mirrors. Lovely condition throughout. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt. HPI Clear.....	£1995	
2001	51	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 AUTOMATIC. 5 door. Silver. Local car. Central locking. Electric windows. PAS. Radio/CD. Very tidy for its year. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt. HPI Clear.....	£1,895	
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2001	51	NISSAN MICRA 1.0 VIBE. 5 doors. Metallic Blue. PAS. Radio/CD. Local car. Very tidy throughout. Sold with a new MOT a full service and a new cambelt. HPI Clear.....	£1395	
1997	P	TOYOTA CELICA 1.8 ST COUPE. Turquoise Blue. Exceptional Condition, PAS, Alloys, Central Locking, Electric Windows, Sun Roof, Local Car, HPI Clear.....	£1,295	
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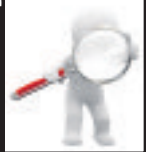


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